

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, January 28, 2013, 4:30pm, in the Council Chambers. Present at said meeting were Richard Shockley, Karen Springer, Aimee Jacobsen, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannelly and Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Also present was City Council President Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Council members Gerald Thomas, Gerry Keen and staff member, Brenda Lorenz.

Richard convened the Board at 4:33pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the December 17, 2012 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Reported Indiana Ready Mix Concrete Association has given an award to us for “Outstanding Concrete Achievement” for the Wabash Heritage Trail project with those hundreds and hundreds of concrete blocks, in which he and Dave Buck will be accepting in Indianapolis tomorrow.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- We are requesting \$75,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds to be used for a new ramp and automatic doors for the front of Morton. Public hearings will be held on February 5 and March 5.
- ADA compliance work continues at the pool.
- Tom James, Nick Rawles and I completed the Certified Playground Safety Inspectors course. We will not know if we passed until the end of February. There are new ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) Standards and we have learned we will need new signage for our playgrounds. Signs must now have a warning message, which communicates the removal of helmets, drawstrings, or accessories around the neck, along with hot play surfaces and/or surfacing.
- The City’s Health Promotion Committee, of which I am a member, is promoting a “Get Fit Challenge” to encourage employees to adopt a healthier lifestyle that includes eating healthier and exercising.
- Our next ADA Committee meeting is February 21. We are continuing to address issues that are a part of the City’s Transition Plan. A copy of the ADA Transition Plan is available at the West Lafayette Library in the Reference area and on the City’s webpage.
- Global Fest will be held this year on Saturday, August 31. The Global Fest Committee will be meeting soon to begin planning for the event.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections are available
- Cleaned and repaired lights and jets on the Margerum Fountain
- A few repairs have been made on the heating system at Morton
- Repairing miscellaneous equipment
- Cleaning and organizing the maintenance facility

**Recreation Report** – Chris reported on the following:

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade basketball program played their first games on Saturday, January 19. Eighty-eight children are participating in the program coordinated by Greg Tudor.
- The Riverside Skating Center continues to be a popular place this winter in between rainy, warm and frigid weather.
- A one-day Learn to Skate Clinic was held on Saturday, January 5. Thirty-one people, ages 5-Adult, participated. The clinic has become a popular one-day event.
- Group ice skating lessons began on January 12 with seventy-eight children participating. The four-week lessons will continue through February 2.
- The Center's annual Dare to Bear will be held Friday, February 1 from 7-8:30pm. Brave skaters will make laps around the ice rink in their bathing suits or costumes.

**Morton Center** – Brenda reported on the following:

- AARP will have representatives at Morton on Wednesday afternoons 1 - 4pm throughout February giving tax assistance to seniors and those people with low incomes. Appointments are required.
- A Purdue class will be working with Morton to produce five short videos about Morton classes. The instructors have been notified about the project, of which I am sure, will be glad to work with the students. Once the videos are complete, we will be able to post them to the City's website. They should be similar to others that were produced for the Farmers Market last spring.
- The Purdue Boiler Network sent twelve volunteers to Morton on Martin Luther King Day to help clean some of the rooms. They washed down baseboards and cleaned windows. Their help was greatly appreciated.
- The City Bus now stops right outside Morton making it very convenient for residents and Purdue students to use the bus when coming to Morton. The Gold Loop stops at the corner of Columbia and Chauncey as well as several spots along Salisbury at the east end of Morton's parking lot.
- We have been keeping busy with registrations, room rentals, and rentals of the skating rink.

**Stewardship Manager** – Dan reported on the following:

**Grant** – In December, I submitted a grant proposal to the Tipmont REMC EnviroWatts committee and then on Monday, January 14, two boy scouts and I made a presentation to them for financial support for an outdoor classroom to be located on a hillside near the Lilly Nature Center. This area will include wood bench seating for 125 – 150 people, a small wood stage, and wheelchair accessibility.

We were awarded the full amount of \$3,500. With our assistance, the two boy scouts will be building the benches and stage for their Eagle Scout recognition. Now the scouts, their fathers, Joe, Lee and I need to get together to come up with a final construction design.

Joe added we have received a grant previously from the Tipmont EnviroWatts program, and the grant has to process through the Parks & Recreation Foundation, as they are unable to give to government entities.

**Volunteer Recognition** – This will be the third year that the Mayor recognizes five local outstanding volunteers. Two members from the Tree Fund will be honored on February 4 at the City Council meeting. They are John MacDonald and Don Wood. Another individual, Paul Butler, will be recognized for his efforts at the Celery Bog Nature Area. We thank and congratulate all of these outstanding volunteers.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

### **2013 Parks NRO Budget**

Chris noted the 2013 NRO Budget distributed to the Park Board members, which was prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer. Chris asked for Board approval as of January 1, 2013. Aimee motioned to approve the 2013 NRO Budget as presented. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Morton Facility Use Application**

Joe noted the board members received a copy of the revised Morton Facility Use Application, noting the changes are reflected in bold. The changes are to minimize the rules being ignored by the renters, therefore causing staff to have to stay extra hours, to clean up the facility. We are requesting to implement a clean-up fee of \$100.00, a financial incentive, for groups planning to have food at their event. Discussion followed. Karen motioned to approve the proposed fee as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The Board plans to revisit the item at next month's meeting.

### **West Lafayette School Board** – Karen reported the following:

- At our organizational meeting on January 9, we elected officers for 2013. Alan Karpick continues as President, I will continue as Vice-President and Brad Marley continues as Secretary.
- Annual Joint School Board Meeting of Lafayette School Corporation, Tippecanoe School Corporation and West Lafayette will be held on February 12.
- Annual West Side Story presented by the West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation will be Saturday, February 23, at the Four Points by Sheraton.
- This summer there will be construction at the Jr/Sr High School to remove most of the senior high locker bay to add three classrooms, remodel areas for the art program and redesign the Foods classroom to allow expansion of the cafeteria. Lockers will be repositioned in hallways on the first and second floors.

### **Wabash River**

- Richard reported there was a meeting last Thursday. Andy reported he attended and gave a brief update of items covered at the meeting.
  - Work continues with processing the paperwork for the grant that was received for the cleanup of the steam plant site.
  - Progress continues with the North River Road area, where money has been made available through the North Central Health Services, for WREC to

purchase homes, keeping the land on the one side by the river for future trail installation, and then reselling the homes.

**Other**

**Summary of Budget**

Joe distributed copies of the "2013 Redevelopment Commission – Spending Authorization and YTD Expenditures," giving a brief overview of the report. He noted more would be discussed next month pertaining to our budget assisting with the renovation costs of the new offices.

**Fee Checklist**

Andy noted how the board receives various requests throughout the year from organizations wishing to have a reduction in fees, or fees waived altogether. He suggested we might want to consider a checklist of questions that we want to have answered, items we consider to be relevant to our decision process. He proposed to the board that he could put something together for review. Discussion followed.

**Pay Claims**

Pat motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

John motioned to adjourn the meeting. Aimee seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary